



Office of Public Information  
3600 South Constitution Boulevard  
West Valley City, Utah 84119-3720  
Office: (801) 963-3466  
Mobile: (801) 232-0466  
Fax: (801) 955-3604  
Email: [aaron.crim@wvc-ut.gov](mailto:aaron.crim@wvc-ut.gov)

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Contact: Mike Winder, West Valley City, 801-633-1300  
John Curtis, Provo, 801-362-0015

## **New West Valley City and Provo Leaders to Attend Harvard Conference for Newly Elected Mayors**

West Valley City – Newly-elected Mayors Mike Winder (West Valley City) and John Curtis (Provo) will join nearly twenty other incoming mayors, from large cities across the country, at Harvard University's Institute of Politics (IOP) this week for a three-day seminar on leadership and the issues they will face.

"I am pleased to participate in this important program, which has helped prepare new mayors for more than three decades," said Mayor-elect Curtis. "This program will help us develop the tools and techniques to better serve our cities, and at no cost to our cities" added Mayor-elect Winder.

"We are pleased to again welcome new U.S. mayors to Harvard," said Bill Purcell, Institute of Politics Director and former Mayor of Nashville, TN (1999-2007). "This conference provides our mayors an opportunity to gain key insights from scholars, policy experts and political practitioners on the practical challenges and pressing issues they are facing."

The 18<sup>th</sup> biennial Seminar on Transition and Leadership for Newly Elected Mayors, co-sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Mayors, will run from Wednesday, November 18 through Friday, November 20 at the IOP at the John F. Kennedy School of Government. The newly elected U.S. mayors will participate in a variety of sessions led by academics, practitioners, and current and former mayors. Focusing on training for new city leaders, topics include the economic crisis, transitioning from the campaign to City Hall, and education.

*Harvard University's Institute of Politics (IOP), located at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, was established in 1966 as a memorial to President Kennedy. The IOP's mission is to unite and engage students, particularly undergraduates, with academics, politicians, activists, and policymakers on a non-partisan basis and to stimulate and nurture their interest in public service and leadership. The Institute strives to promote greater understanding and cooperation between the academic world and the world of politics and public affairs. More information is available online at [www.iop.harvard.edu/](http://www.iop.harvard.edu/).*